

03-11-04

### EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE

"Express Mail" Label No. : EV 367 776 465 US

Serial No. : 10/645,996

Applicant(s) : Lloyd Harmon Hancock et al.

Filing Date : August 22, 2003

Title : Equipment and Methods for Manufacturing Cigarettes

Examiner : Unknown

Group Art Unit : 1731

Type of Document(s) : Express Mail Certificate;  
Information Disclosure Statement **(in duplicate)**;  
Information Disclosure Statement By Applicant  
(PTO/SB/08A);  
References (138); and  
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Debbie K. Cooke (signature)  
Debbie K. Cooke

*Date Mailed : March 10, 2004*



EV 367 776 465 US

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of : Lloyd Harmon Hancock et al.  
Serial No : 10/645,996  
Filed : August 22, 2003  
For : Equipment and Methods for Manufacturing Cigarettes  
Examiner : Unknown  
Art Unit : 1731

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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

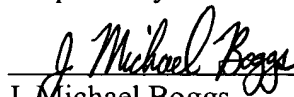
Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A. A copy of the references listed on the attached form is submitted herewith.

It is respectfully requested that the references listed on the attached form be expressly considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the application and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted prior to the mailing of a first action on the merits in the present application. Accordingly, it is believed that no fees are due for consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement. However, should any fees be due, the Assistant Commissioner is authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account 16-1435. A duplicate of this sheet is attached for that purpose.

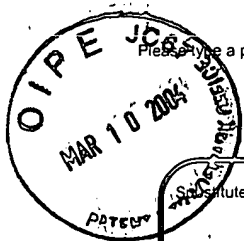
Respectfully submitted,

Date: 3/10/04

  
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00568-286924  
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<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  (use as many sheets as necessary)		<b>Complete if Known</b>	
		<b>Application Number</b>	10/645,996
		<b>Filing Date</b>	August 22, 2003
		<b>First Named Inventor</b>	Lloyd Harmon Hancock et al.
		<b>Group Art Unit</b>	1731
		<b>Examiner Name</b>	Unknown
		<b>Attorney Docket Number</b>	00568-286924
Sheet	1 of 4	Express Mail No:	EV 367 776 465 US

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
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Substitute for form 1449APTO		<b>Complete if Known</b>			
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  (use as many sheets as necessary)		Application Number	10/645,996		
		Filing Date	August 22, 2003		
		First Named Inventor	Lloyd Harmon Hancock et al.		
		Group Art Unit	1731		
		Examiner Name	Unknown		
		Attorney Docket Number	00568-286924		
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## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

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Application Number	10/645,996
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Group Art Unit	1731
Examiner Name	Unknown
Attorney Docket Number	00568-286924

Sheet **3** of **4** Express Mail No: EV 367 776 465 US

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Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Office <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)				
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### OTHER PRIOR ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>2</sup>
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		<b>Examiner Name</b>	Unknown		
		<b>Attorney Docket Number</b>	00568-286924		
<b>Sheet</b>	4	<b>of</b>	4	<b>Express Mail No:</b>	EV 367 776 465 US

	136	Hauni Protos/VE 80 Operating Manual, No. 385, B2282e, pages 3/10 – 3/11, in existence at least as of December 20, 2002.	
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<b>Examiner Signature</b>		<b>Date Considered</b>	
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